

*Preserving Rural Work Ethic,
Promoting Rural Spirit,
Pioneering Progressive
Development*

HOOPESTON HORIZONS

HOOPESTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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TYING HOOPESTON'S ASSETS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In this newsletter and some of the upcoming newsletters we will be feature a different community asset in each edition. Whether its an event, an organization or a business we will showcase each and highlight the role each entity plays in economic development.

For this edition we are showcasing the Hoopeston Public Library and the many services they offer that can benefit businesses and residents in Hoopeston.

How Can the Hoopeston Public Library Assist Your Business?

The Hoopeston Public Library is a tremendous Hoopeston asset and provides many services to the community that may often be overlooked. The Hoopeston Public Library District covers 282 square miles including Hoopeston, Rossville, Alvin, Cheneyville, East Lynn, Rankin and Wellington. This library offers a wide range of services in print, online, and on CD-ROM or video. The library also hosts many community meetings for a variety of organizations and committees.

The Hoopeston Public Library has a collection of 63 books specific to business and economic development to assist business start-ups



with business planning and marketing. The library received a grant in the early 1990's to purchase books that meet the needs of community businesses. The library continues to update and expand these resources

to support economic development in Hoopeston.

Wireless internet service is now available at the library to community residents and businesses. There are 7



Library patrons utilizing computer work stations

public access computer stations available upstairs and 1 station for searching for books only. Residents and business owners can also bring personal laptops to the library to connect to the wireless internet and access the available library databases online. The library is in the process of expanding the public access computer area to include six additional computer work stations provided by Silgan.

The Hoopeston Public Library is participating in a new pilot program to offer WorldCat database services online. This new service allows local library users to search the Hoopeston library collection, as well as

thousands of libraries around the world.

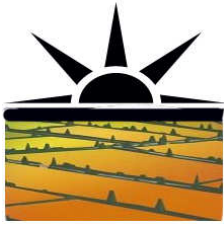
When a library user conducts a search using the new public library search box, items that are available at the Hoopeston Public Library are shown at the top of the list. Resources available in other Worldcat libraries are also shown. Users can then request these items online through interlibrary loan. This service allows users to find and reserve books in the middle of the night in the convenience of there own home! The Hoopeston Public Library Worldcat



search box is available on the library site at <http://hooplib.org>

One of the new reference sites available to patrons twenty four hours a day seven days a week is the Gale Virtual Reference Library offering more than 300 online reference books and thousands of articles.

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We're on the web!
www.hoopeston-il.gov

How Can the Hoopeston Public Library Assist Your Business?

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This online reference is a wonderful convenient site where there is no late fee and no due date. The Gale Virtual Reference Info in a Box provides information that has been researched by top scholars in their fields. So you can count on receiving accurate, authoritative and current online research every time. All that is needed is a Hoopeston Public

Library borrower's card. Visit www.foinabox.com for direct access to the site or go to the library web page and click on Library Research links where all the online reference tools are listed.

The library is planning a series of training workshops to begin after the 1st of the year. These sessions will train businesses and residents on new online reference

materials and other resources the library offers to the community. Dates will be announced in the upcoming newsletter.

The library has books on audio-cassette and CD for your enjoyment as you travel.

The library staff is open to suggested titles for purchase as well as ideas for continuing education topics.

Civic Center Improvements Underway

Chuck Reifsteck from Gorski Reifsteck Architects in Champaign was hired by the City of Hoopeston to create a design and plan for the Community Civic Center kitchen, bathrooms, and hallway behind the stage.

The Civic Center is an asset to the City and improvements to this facility would allow it to be more widely used by the community.

Beta Sigma Phi Sorority has expressed some interest in being a part of this project though fundraising and grant writing efforts. The renovation of the civic center will provide an opportunity to involve the community in improving an asset that is used by all residents.